6 Arraigned as Abductors In Leftist 'Deprograming'

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By LINDA GREENHOUSE

Six young members of a local Communist anti-Soviet group were arraigned in Criminal Court yesterday on charges of kidnapping one of its own members and holding her against her will for three days in an apartment in Washington Heights.

Members of the group who were in the courtroom said that the woman, Alicia Weitzman, had not been kidnapped or held against her will but was being "deprogramed" to overcome the effects of an alleged brainwashing by the K.G.B., the Soviet secret police.

The case was thrown into considerable confusion when Miss Weitzman, who is 22 years old, failed to appear in court. She complained to the police on Wednesday that she had been kidnapped by fellow members of the National Caucus of Labor Committees, a parent organization for several small leftist parties.

"We don't know why she isn't here or where she is," Eric Toppin, the assistant district attorney prosecuting the case, told Judge Hyman Solniker.

"Either we have a complainant or we don't," Hyman Dechter, the defense lawyer for the group, retorted. He said he would move to dismiss the case if the prosecution did not produce Miss Weitzman by next Tuesday, the date Judge Solniker set for a hearing. The judge ordered the six defendants held in $1,000 bond each.

The members of the caucus, who declined to give their names, said that the Soviet Union was attempting to infiltrate their party by using Miss Weitzman.

A press release from the National Caucus of Labor Committees yesterday contended that the group had obtained "hard evidence" of a plot by the K.G.B. to assassinate the group's chairman, Lyn Marcus. The release charged that the American Central Intelligence Agency and M15, the British intelligence agency, were involved in an "intelligence collusion" in the assassination plot.

Mr. Dechter, the lawyer for the six arrested members, would not comment on these allegations. "I know nothing about it; I've never seen these people before in my life," he said.

According to the police, the strange case began Wednesday night when a stroller on Cabrini Boulevard in Washington Heights found a note on the sidewalk from Miss Weitzman, in which she said she was being held against her will in an apartment in 9 Cabrini Boulevard.

The passer-by gave the note to a passing police radio car. The police officers went to the fourth-floor apartment and were refused admittance. They heard screams and forced their way in. Miss Weitzman, who was in the apartment, declined to file a complaint, so the officers took her to the home of a friend.

Some hours later, the police said, the friend and Miss Weitzman appeared at the 34th Precinct station to file a formal complaint of kidnapping. The officers returned to the apartment and arrested the six people there.

The accused are Edward Spannaus, 30 years old, and Mary Fletcher, 25, both of 9 Cabrini Boulevard; Fernando Quijano, 26, of 1 Bogardus Place; Renee Typaldos, 22, of 20 Merriam Avenue, the Bronx; Daniel Sneider, 22, of 640 West 153d Street and Khushro Ghandhi, 22, of 621 West 172d Street.

Miss Weitzman also gave her address as 9 Cabrini Boulevard. It was not clear whether she lived in the apartment in which she asserted she had been held.